

IC 4-4-9.5

Chapter 9.5. Indiana Rural Development Council

IC 4-4-9.5-1

"Council" defined

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "council" refers to the Indiana Rural Development Council established by the 1993 memorandum of understanding between Indiana and the United States Department of Agriculture.

As added by P.L.155-2001, SEC.1.

IC 4-4-9.5-2

Rural economic development strategy; reports; testimony

Sec. 2. With the approval of the governing board of the council, the council shall do the following:

(1) Develop a rural economic development strategy for Indiana to assist Indiana's rural residents in improving their quality of life and to help promote successful and sustainable rural communities. The rural economic development strategy must include goals and recommendations concerning the following issues:

- (A) Job creation and retention.
- (B) Infrastructure, including water, wastewater, and storm water infrastructure needs.
- (C) Housing.
- (D) Workforce training.
- (E) Health care.
- (F) Local planning.
- (G) Land use.
- (H) Assistance to regional rural development groups.
- (I) Other rural development issues, as determined by the council.

(2) Submit before October 1 of each year an annual report in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6 to the legislative council. A report submitted under this section is intended to do the following:

- (A) Inform the general assembly of the council's work during the period covered by the report.
- (B) Assist the general assembly in monitoring issues affecting rural communities and responding to the needs of rural residents.

(3) Testify concerning rural development issues before any standing committee or study committee established by the general assembly, as requested by the legislative council.

As added by P.L.155-2001, SEC.1. Amended by P.L.28-2004, SEC.26.

IC 4-4-9.5-3

Contracts for assistance

Sec. 3. The council may contract with any regional rural

development group for assistance in developing the rural economic development strategy required under this chapter.

As added by P.L.155-2001, SEC.1.

IC 4-4-9.5-4

Establishment and purposes of fund; investment of money in fund

Sec. 4. (a) The rural development council fund is established to be used exclusively for:

- (1) the purposes set forth in sections 2 and 3 of this chapter;
- (2) administrative expenses and personnel expenses incurred by the council in carrying out this chapter; and
- (3) providing funding for the establishment of new regional rural development groups and the operations of existing regional rural development groups.

The fund shall be administered by the council.

(b) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from the money in the fund.

(c) Notwithstanding IC 5-13, the treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund under IC 5-10.3-5. The treasurer of state may contract with investment management professionals, investment advisers, and legal counsel to assist in the management of the fund and may pay the state expenses incurred under those contracts.

(d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.

As added by P.L.224-2003, SEC.178.